

You will notice that the amount of poetry found in anthologies which does not make the most  
Of metaphor is slight.

The realization of ideas or concepts in poetry is more effective in absence than in presence.  
Therefore, use of fact instead of allegory or allusion is an obvious act of malfeasance.  
There are two other things a poem must be:

Precise  
Concise

— Laurie Retter  
Phoenix, Arizona

## THE VULGAR SOUNDS RISE MY MISERY

Downstairs he snores  
flat on his back  
up  
at my ceiling  
as I  
and  
the night  
the heater  
the clock  
conjure  
and decide to  
go on,  
go on  
and try  
to keep  
heater  
clock  
and  
myself  
together.

what  
he's decided  
is perhaps  
a little  
more  
or a little  
less  
but decided  
once (if ever)  
and  
forgotten.

— Charles  
Bukowski  
  
Los Angeles,  
California